

What is the Stormwater and Sediment Control Program?

Over 100 million tons of soil erodes annually from Indiana's agricultural and urban landscapes. Much of that soil enters lakes, streams, reservoirs, and rivers as sediment. Sedimentation of lakes, streams, reservoirs, and rivers results in poor water quality, diminished recreational use, reduced storage capacity, reduced floodwater retention, degradation of aquatic life, and depreciated property values.

Sediment removal, water treatment, and property repairs are costly. It's cheaper to prevent these problems than to correct them. Sensible land-use decisions, planning, and relatively inexpensive management practices can prevent, or at least minimize, the impact of many erosion and sedimentation problems.

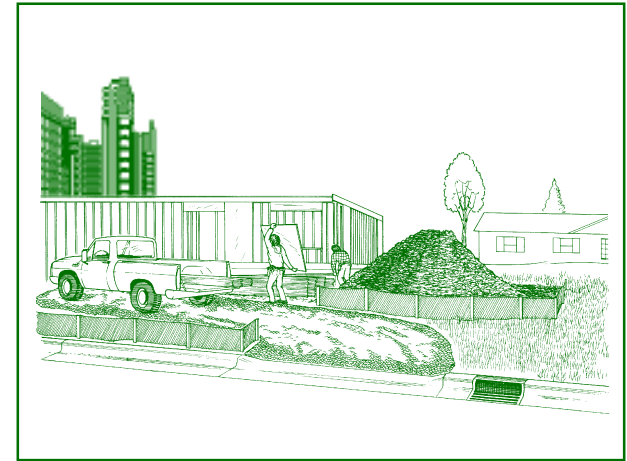
The Division of Soil Conservation's Stormwater and Sediment Control Program's objective is to control soil erosion and sedimentation on non-farm lands, especially those undergoing development. To achieve this objective, Division of Soil Conservation staff along with their conservation partners help non-agricultural land users make wise land-use decisions, as well as select and apply appropriate conservation practices. Working primarily through Soil and Water Conservation Districts, and often in cooperation with other local, state, and federal agencies, the Division of Soil Conservation provides assistance to planners, developers, builders, contractors, engineers, surveyors, realtors, business owners, governmental units, educational institutions, and private citizens and organizations.



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Stormwater and Sediment Control Program



A Component of Clean Water Indiana

DNR

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Silt fence captures sediment by ponding water to allow for deposition of sediment.



Establishing vegetative cover controls soil erosion and reduces sedimentation.



Sediment control basins retain runoff and allow sediment to settle out.

Available Technical Assistance

- On-site evaluations to determine both the sources and extent of existing or potential erosion and sediment problems.
- Advise on development and application of workable solutions to existing or potential erosion and sediment problems.
- Provide technical and educational assistance, or act in an advisory capacity to watershed or regional based initiatives to further the multiple benefits of stormwater management and soil and water conservation.
- Consult with county and community governments to draft local erosion and sediment control and stormwater ordinances.
- Cooperate with the Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM), implement “Rule 5” (327 IAC 15-5), a state regulation aimed at minimizing off-site water quality damages from construction site stormwater runoff.
- Assist SWCDs with erosion and sediment control plan reviews and site inspections of projects subject to “Rule 5” compliance.

Available Educational Assistance

- Program presentations on soils, the erosion process, erosion and sediment control principles and practices, and the use of conservation information and resources.
- Training on developing construction site erosion and sediment control plans, as well as selecting, installing and maintaining the appropriate control measures.
- Resources such as the “Indiana Handbook for Erosion Control in Developing Areas,” a standards and specifications manual on planning and applying construction site erosion control practices; and “Erosion Control for the Home Builder,” a pamphlet on minimizing erosion problems on individual building lots

For More Information

For more information about the Stormwater and Sediment Control Program and the assistance available, contact your local Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD), or the DNR, Division of Soil Conservation at (317) 233-3870.